

Magnetic Influence

Scout 1: (Demonstrate how a magnet destroys the validity of a compass by causing the needle to veer from North)

Scouts, you have learned to rely on your compass. You know the needle points North and will guide you into the wilderness, but you have also seen what happens when a magnet is brought near the compass. The magnet is an outside influence on the character of the compass.

Each scout has an aim in life. He wants to grow up to be physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

The points of the Scout Law make up the magnetic field that directs the compass needle we follow.

Scout 2: Just like the magnet, there are influences trying to change our aim. There are temptations difficult to overcome – temptations to get by without working, to lie, to cheat, to follow the coaxing of friends, and the jeers or threats of enemies.

If you are going to grow up to be physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, you must not succumb to the attraction of the evil magnets in your life, but must be steadfast in your purpose to living up to the ideals of Scouting.

Scout 3: The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

To help us with these values are many volunteers and mentors. Webster's Dictionary defines a volunteer as one who enters into or offers himself for a service of his own free will. Webster also defines mentor as a trusted counselor or guide. Just like the compass.

Scout 4: Tonight we salute our leaders who are a great group of volunteers and mentors. These men and women have extended to us, as scouts, experiences and adventures that we may not have ever had the chance to experience. We will carry these with us for the rest of our lives.

We welcome those new leaders, volunteers and mentors to help to continue to guide us through our career in Scouting.

For all that you do, the Scouts of Troop 149 thank you.